In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 4, 2003

Thomas H. Jenkins Reg. No. 30,857

FINNEGAN HENDERSON FARABOW GARRETT& DUNNER LLP

1300 1 Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202.408.4000 Fax 202.408.4400 www.finnegan.com

APPENDIX

15. (Amended) A safety system for a firearm, the firearm having a trigger and a handgrip located rearward of the trigger, the safety system comprising:

a blocking assembly, located forward of the trigger, including [a gear train and a motor for driving the gear train, to prevent operation of the trigger] a motor, a gear train driven by the motor, and a pin moveable by the gear train so that the pin directly contacts and prevents operation of the trigger when the blocking assembly is activated;

a power source to supply power to the safety system; and

a power control unit, electrically connected to the blocking assembly and the power source, to control power supply from the power source to the blocking assembly to activate the blocking assembly.

16. (Amended) The safety system for a firearm of claim 15, wherein the blocking assembly further comprises:

an output shaft connected to the gear train to translate a rotary output of the gear train to an axial movement [for preventing rotation of the trigger] of the pin.

17. (Amended) The safety system for a firearm of claim 16, [wherein the blocking assembly further comprises a pin axially movable by the output shaft, and] wherein the trigger is provided with one aperture for receiving the pin when the trigger is

FINNEGAN HENDERSON FARABOW GARRETT& DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202.408.4000 Fax 202.408.4400 www.finnegan.com

7038729314# P. 06

in a cocked position, and another aperture for receiving the pin when the trigger is in an uncocked position upon activation of the axial moving element.

FINNEGAN HENDERSON FARABOW GARRETT& DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202.408.4000 Fax 202.408.4400 www.finnegan.com